PAVICS

A Platform for the Analysis and Visualization of Climate Science









ESGF F2F 2016 2016-12-07



- Consortium on Regional Climatology and Adaptation to Climate Change
- Provides climate scenarios and services
- Runs a regional climate model
- Consulting services on adaptation to climate change

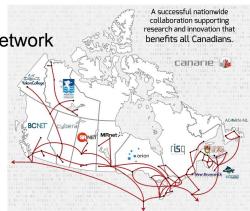


- Computer Research Institute of Montreal
- Applied research center in IT
- Positioned between academia and businesses



Canada's National Research and Education Network

- Funds digital infrastructure for research
- Funds reusable research software tools



Ouranos needs a platform for climate services

Creating and delivering climate products

For each client, create and run a suite of operations converting raw climate data into useful "products";

Enforce best practices on staff;

Archive operations and parameters as "workflows" (provenance & reuse);

Share workflows with colleagues;

Improve code quality, reduce errors;

Make climate research less painful

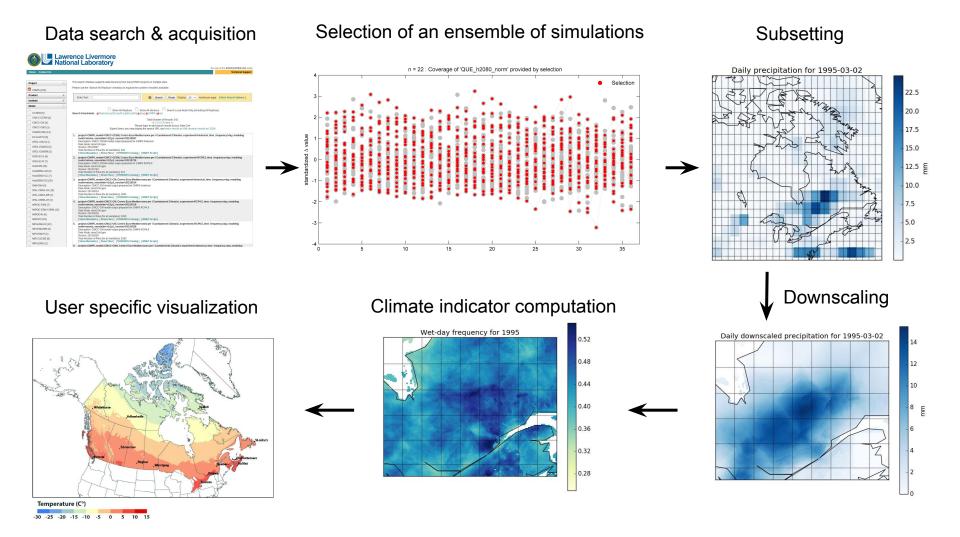
Replace nitty-gritty details by abstractions;

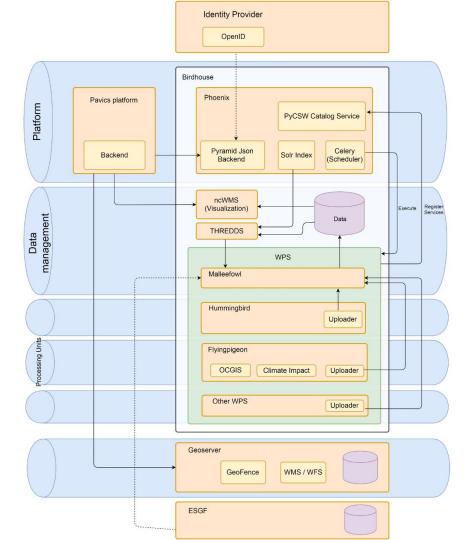
Replace list of files by criteria-defined "ensembles";

Replace grid masks by "regions";

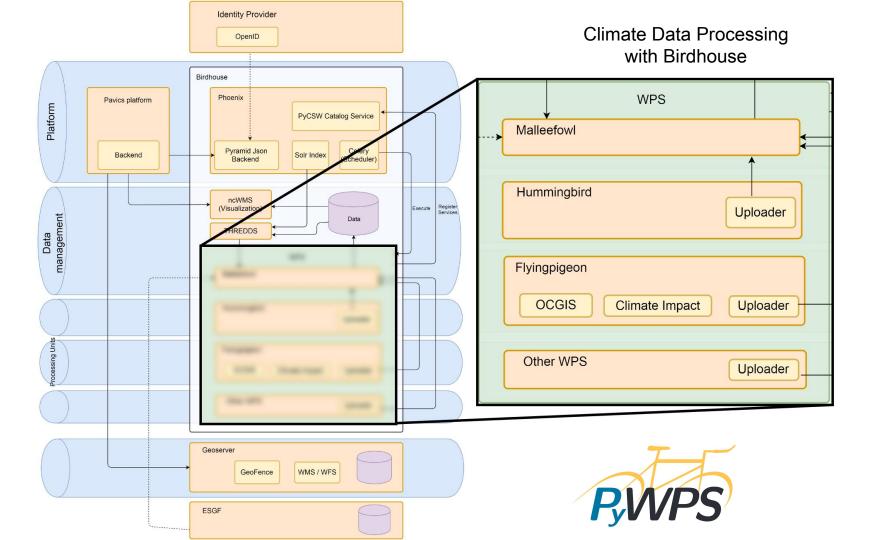
Replace algorithms by "processes";

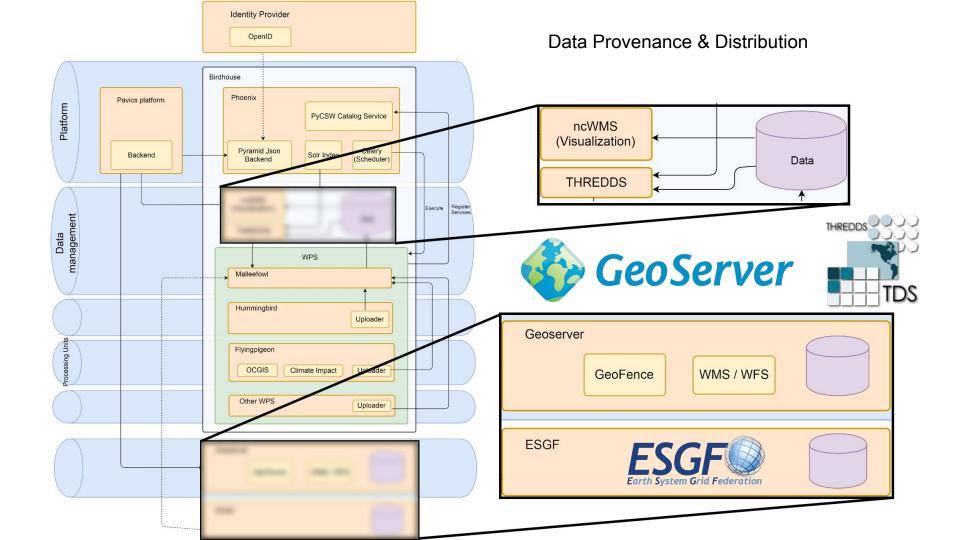
Replace cpus by "computing ressources";

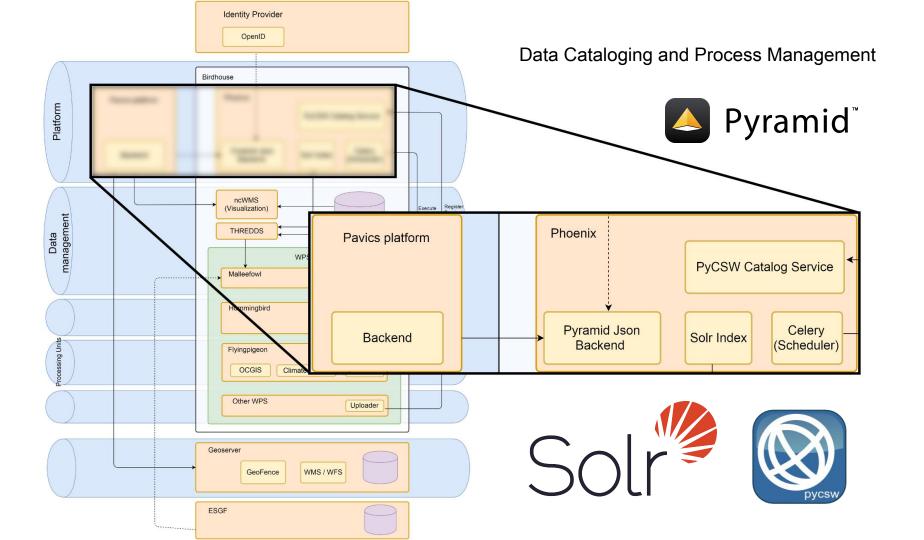


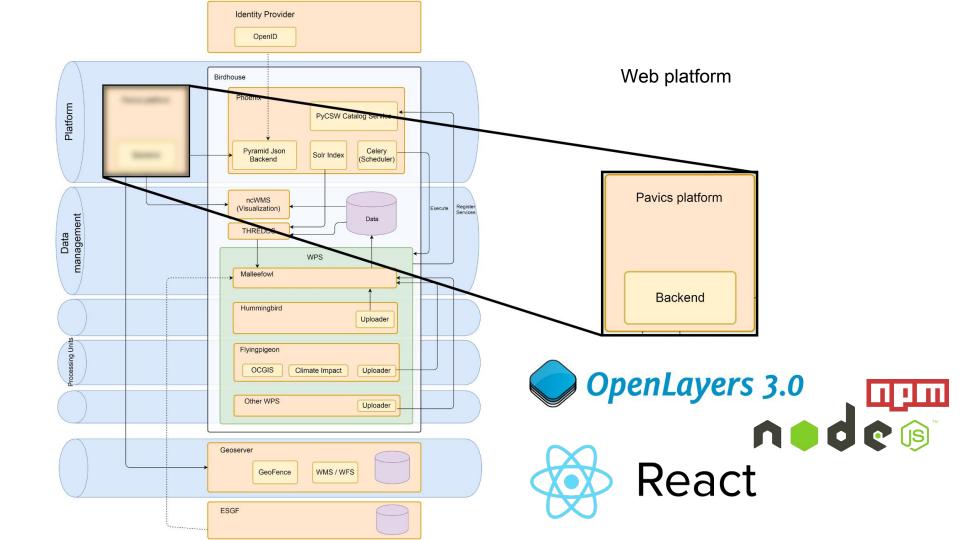


PAVICS Architecture









Internal assessment of UV-CDAT and COG

UV-CDAT

- Hard time understanding how to extend with new functionality
- Crashes with regional model simulations (early 2016)
- Uncertainty regarding provenance mechanism, web UI

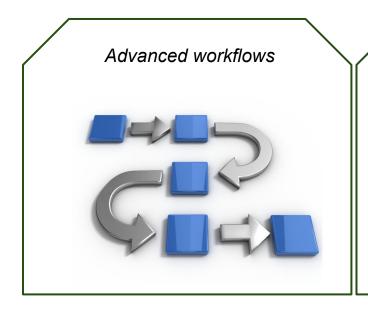
Cog

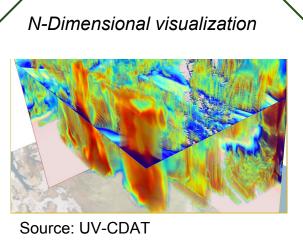
- YUI not maintained since 2014
- No REST API
- No client side business logic

Exploration of emerging technologies

- Secondary objective of the project: identification and exploration for more advanced topics.
- Deliverable as sandboxes or local test instances.













Outlook

- As a climate service organization, we must move away from repeating primitive tasks of scripting data search, subsetting and basic climate indicator computations for each project.
- We must also acknowledge that our members have varying degrees of familiarity with climate science and big data manipulation and therefore require different climate products.
- Modularity is key to plug and play the components that allow the creation of a user experience tailored to the many categories of climate science users.
- **Dialogue** between the many development teams that are working on the challenges of climate data distribution and analysis stimulates reusability, proper documentation, and more thorough testing.